(a) whether it is a fact that all sections of the Gujarat coastal highways have not been upgraded to National Highway; and

(b) if so, the time envisaged for this upgradation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) The length of Castal Highway in Gujarat is 1729.02 Km. out of which 627.6 Km. is National Highway. The declaration of any road as a National Highway depends not only on the consideration that it runs along the coast but on several other considerations including traffic needs, *inter-se* priority on all India basis and availability of resources. At present emphasis is being given for development of roads already declared as National Highways.

NH-18 and NH-202 in Andhra Pradesh

2760. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made and spent on development and improvement of existing National Highway-18 and National Highway-202 in Andhra Pradesh during the current financial year 2007-08;

(b) the present status of these National Highways in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether Government proposes to sanction sufficient amount for improvement and development of the above NHs; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The allocation for the development of National Highways (NHs) is made as a whole for the State and not NH-wise. During 2007-08, an amount of Rs. 76.00 crore was allocated for the development of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh including NH-18 and 202. The entire allocation mentioned above has been utilized.

(b) NH-18 having a length of 360 km in Andhra Pradesh is presently having two-lane carriageway. Four-laning in about 6 km length within Kadapa town is in progress and another 193 km length from Kadapa to Kurnool has been identified for four-laning under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase-III. As regards NH-202 having a length of 306 km in Andhra Pradesh, stretch from km 0/0 to 30/0 (km 0/0 at Hyderabad) is four-lane, 192 km is two-lane and the remaining length is single lane/missing link. Further, a length of 30 km from km 30.0 to 60/0 (upto Yadgiri) has been identified for four-laning under NHDP Phase-III and about 7 km length within Warangal town is proposed for four-laning in Annual Plan 2008-09.

(c) and (d) Development of National Highways is a continuous process and improvement works are taken up based on the *inter se* priorities and overall availability of funds.

Major ports to be overhauled

2761. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the major ports are poised for massive overhaul including capacity